

22

TWENTY-FOURTH
ANNUAL REPORT

OF THE

PRESIDENT, TREASURER, AND LIBRARIAN

OF THE

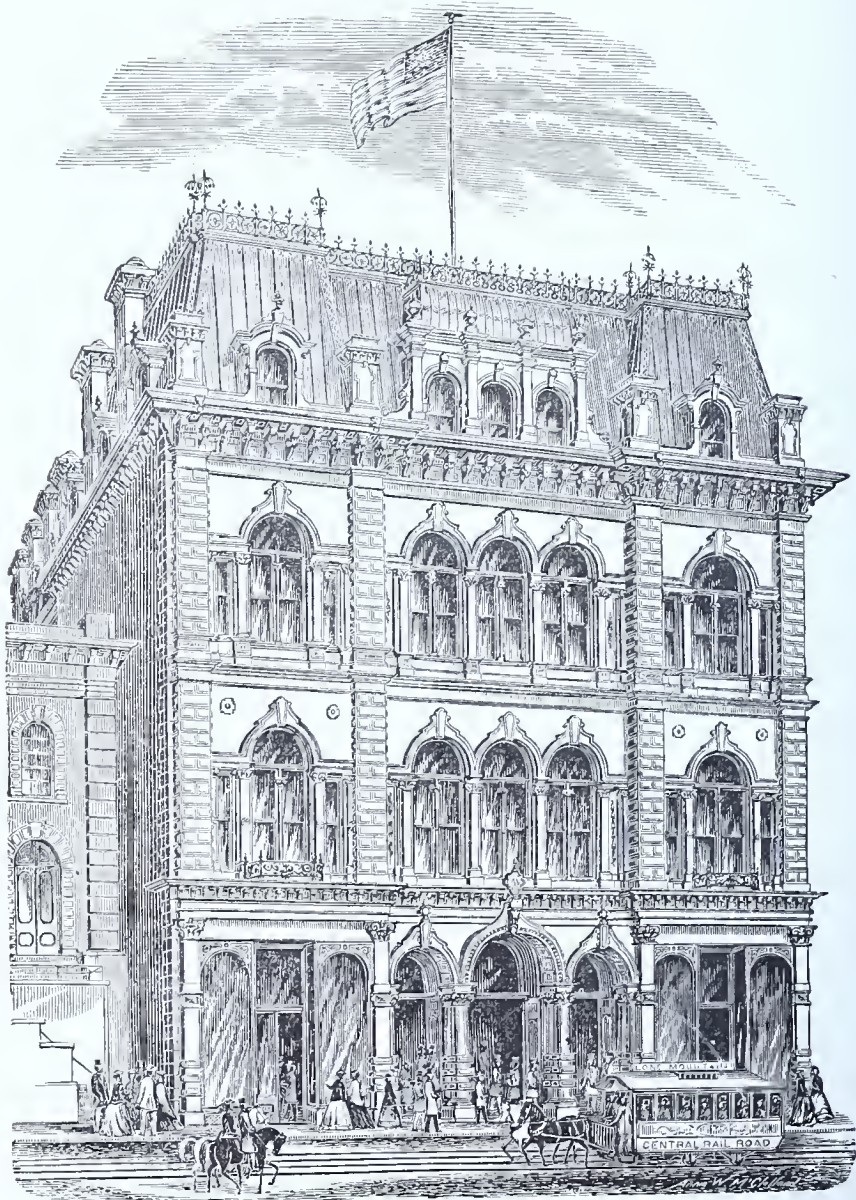
MERCANTILE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION

OF

SAN FRANCISCO,

1876.

SAN FRANCISCO:
C. A. MURDOCK & CO., PRINTERS, 532 CLAY STREET,
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OFFICERS FOR 1877.

PRESIDENT:

CHARLES WOLCOTT BROOKS.

VICE PRESIDENT:

HENRY P. BOWIE.

RECORDING SECRETARY:

FRANCIS AVERY.

CORRESPONDING SECRETARY:

JUSTIN P. MOORE.

TREASURER:

GEO. C. HICKOX,

TRUSTEES:

ANDREW McF. DAVIS,

CHARLES R. ALLEN,

JOHN R. JARBOE,

PELHAM W. AMES,

HENRY K. MOORE,

PRENTISS SELBY,

N. B. STONE,

ROBERT BARTON,

RAPHAEL WEILL.

LIBRARIAN:

ALFRED E. WHITAKER.

ASSISTANTS:

L. B. WETHERBEE,

THOMAS CLEARY,

GUSTAVUS SCHWARZMANN.

JANITOR:

GEO. W. EASTMAN.

COLLECTOR:

JOHN WILLIAMS.

STANDING COMMITTEES, 1877.

Ways and Means. { ANDREW McF. DAVIS,
HENRY K. MOORE,
ROBERT BARTON.

Library and Rooms. { HENRY K. MOORE,
RAPHAEL WEILL,
N. B. STONE.

Books and Donations. { JOHN R. JARBOE,
ANDREW McF. DAVIS,
PRENTISS SELBY.

Accounts { RAPHAEL WEILL,
PELHAM W. AMES,
CHARLES R. ALLEN.

Lectures { PRENTISS SELBY,
JOHN R. JARBOE,
PELHAM W. AMES.

Printing { CHARLES R. ALLEN,
N. B. STONE,
ROBERT BARTON.

PRESIDENT'S REPORT.

Another year has been added to the history of this Association. It has become the duty of the officers to make a showing of the events of the twelve months, and it devolves upon me to make some suggestions to be considered by the members at large and by the incoming Board of Trustees.

The report of the Treasurer shows you the receipts and disbursements of the year, together with the balance of cash on hand, while that of the Librarian gives details of matters under his control or of which he is cognizant.

In the year no marked events have occurred to vary the monotony which usually attends the successful workings of an established institution. The Library has done its office, has performed its mission. It has supplied books to ten thousand readers, and was never more fully appreciated than at present. It enters upon the new year in a healthy financial condition, with a larger number and a greater variety of books than ever before and with a promise of constantly extending usefulness. This, I believe, constitutes a degree of prosperity, and upon this I congratulate you.

The property of the Association is insured in fourteen companies of the very best standing, to the aggregate amount of \$80,000, as follows:

Building	\$40,000
Furniture and fixtures	5,000
Books, etc.....	35,000
	<hr/>
	\$80,000

The particular attention of the incoming Board of Trustees, as well as that of the members at large, is called to the present condition of the Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Order and Regulations of the Association, and the very thorough and exhaustive report thereon, dated October 9th, 1876, signed by a Committee consisting of Messrs. T. H. REARDEN, A. H. LOUGHBOROUGH and HENRY MOLINEUX, which report will be presented herewith. Concurring as I do in the conclusions arrived at in this report and in its recommendations, there is but little now to be said on the subject.

The Constitution, By-Laws, Rules of Order and Regulations are not in harmony with each other, and in view of the enactments of various Boards of Trustees, the By-Laws, Rules of Order and Regulations are not harmonious in themselves, and the discrepancies should be reconciled. We have far too much written law to allow of its being studied or understood by the men of scant leisure, who, in the main, compose the Boards of Trustees; but when the volume shall be reduced and the provisions made few and simple, it may be expected that the internal law of the Association may be a light and a guide to the Trustees; at the present it serves no such purpose. In this respect I beg leave to say that the especial thanks of the Association are due to MESSRS. REARDEN, LOUGHBOROUGH and MOLINEUX, for the large amount of time and labor bestowed upon the work.

For reasons which seemed conclusive to the Board of Trustees for 1875, a change in the mode of delivering books to subscribers was inaugurated in January, 1876. Some of these reasons were set forth in the annual report of my predecessor in office.

In further justification of the change it is now proper to state that within two weeks after the new system went into effect upwards of one thousand volumes which had not been debited to the account of any member were quietly returned by being dropped about the Library room and in the approaches thereto, showing the prevalence of the custom of taking away books without the cognizance of the Librarian or of his assistants, and since then books have been continually coming in, in the same way. We may partly compute how many books have been thus returned, but we cannot tell without a thorough inspection and count how many are still out. At first the change subjected the management to a vast amount of criticism; but as far as has appeared of late, the members are now satisfied with the present system; if they are not, however, before moving to restore the old custom, they will do well to reflect that, while books and subscribing members are alike necessary to the support and maintenance of a Library, the loss of and damage to books hitherto has been a much greater and more expensive evil than any loss of membership we have so far suffered. Indeed, it does not appear to be certain that we have suffered any loss of membership, or that we have failed to receive the usual number of new subscribers, but if this were the case, it might be answered that it is quite as well to be without members as without books.

In the reports of the outgoing President and Treasurer, January

1876, reference was made to bonds of the United States, costing \$7,540, held by the Bank of California, as its security against the presentation of gift concert tickets or the coupons thereof. During the year a bond of this Association has been filed with said bank to protect it from liability upon said tickets or coupons, the bonds have been surrendered and sold for the net sum of \$7,616 79, and the money placed on deposit with the San Francisco Savings Union, to the credit of the Mercantile Library Association, the interest on which has been drawn and turned over to the Treasurer as a part of the annual revenue.

For some years an uneasiness has been felt in regard to the title of the present site of the Library, owing to the fact that a suit was pending involving the same, as well as much other property. It has not been supposed that the opposing title had any validity or that the Association was in danger of losing its property; at the same time it was feared that annoyances would be given and expenses incurred through the necessity of opposing the suit. This suit has been dismissed and our title now is without a cloud.

With the adoption in January, 1876, of the new system for the delivery of books to subscribers, it was deemed necessary to employ additional clerical force, and Masters THOMAS CLEARY and GUSTAVUS SCHWARZMANN were given positions. In the month of June, through the demise of JAMES DARWIN CARR, we lost the services of a very courteous and efficient assistant Librarian. This was followed in August by the resignation of H. K. GODDARD. The necessity of making appointments to fill the vacancies thus occasioned was obviated by the young men above mentioned having become familiar with their duties, and having developed a capacity to discharge them properly. Other than these no change has been made during the year in the force on duty at the rooms of the Association, and there have been no resignations or changes among the elective officers or Trustees.

The question of change in location of the Library has been under consideration for the last two years. The Board of Trustees for 1875 deemed a change desirable, and a Building-site Committee was appointed to take the preliminary steps to secure a new lot. The members of this Committee served for several months, when they reported their inability to find a suitable lot in a proper locality at an acceptable price, and the subject was thereupon dismissed. The Trustees for 1876 were of the same opinion in respect to removal as their predecessors, and upon their taking office, another Building-site Committee was appointed to have the

matter in charge. In September this Committee negotiated for the purchase of the middle 50-vara lot on the south side of Ellis street, between Mason and Taylor, at the price of \$55,000; terms of payment so easy that there was no immediate necessity of raising money. At the same time the Committee was in treaty to sell, with a good prospect of success, the present site and Library Building for the sum of \$250,000. With such notices as the circumstances permitted to be given, the question of the purchase of the Ellis street lot was submitted to a meeting composed of a small fraction of the members of the Association, by whom it was at once voted down. The vote upon the first proposition was so decisive that no further showing of the intention of the Trustees was made on that occasion, and the whole matter was dropped, notwithstanding that it remained the opinion of the Trustees as it does to this day, that a removal would enhance the prosperity of the Association, and that a large majority of the members were in favor of such removal.

It is, of course, proper to give reasons for this opinion, which may be done briefly, as follows:

The Library does not thrive as it ought, in a pecuniary sense. With a cash capital of at least \$300,000, being far less than the cost, and a low estimate of the present value of the real and personal property of the Association, and an income from dues of \$18,982, no progress is made; the current revenue barely suffices to pay expenses and for the purchase of a very limited number of recently published books of moderate cost; there is never anything at command for the purchase of rare books, illustrated works or the many other things comparatively expensive, that are popularly supposed to find a place in every considerable Library, and without which the very term Library, in its present acceptation, is a misnomer. The present site and building, it is to be assumed, could have been and may still be sold for \$250,000, while a more desirable site can be purchased and a building better adapted to the purposes of a Library can be erected thereon for a sum not exceeding \$150,000; this will leave a fund of \$100,000, the income of which, say at 9 per cent. will be \$9,000, which may be devoted to the acquisition of articles of inestimable value to a Library, now wholly beyond reach. The present building is well enough adapted to business purposes, though for a Library, chill, cheerless and dark; a new one of ample dimensions may be erected on a full fifty-vara lot, with abundant light and air on every side. In marked contrast with the present building a new one may have its rooms mainly on the first and wholly on the

first and second floors. An idea, which at first view seems plausible, has obtained, that the Mercantile Library of any city should be near the business places of its merchants. Actual observation shows that very few merchants visit the Library during business hours. Mercantile Libraries are for leisure moments and for their families, rather than for merchants themselves, and hence should be located with reference to homes rather than to business places. The present site is relatively remote from all homes — the one selected by the Trustees in September ultimo, was in the midst of residences. It is admitted by nearly every one that the time will come when a change of location will be a necessity, but it is to be feared that when that time does come, real estate in the proper location will be so high as to forbid the purchase of a lot as large as is desirable. While the Trustees have for two years given the matter of removal very serious attention, it is possible that the question has not been duly considered by the members at large. Some plan should be devised to bring the subject home to the members and to elicit their opinions.

The revenue and expenses for the coming year will not differ materially from those of the past, as shown by the Treasurer's report.

On the 15th instant the following named gentlemen were duly elected by the members of the Association: President, CHARLES WOLCOTT BROOKS; Vice President, HENRY P. BOWIE; Recording Secretary, FRANCIS AVERY; Corresponding Secretary, JUSTIN P. MOORE, Treasurer, GEORGE C. HICKOX. Trustees—ANDREW McF. DAVIS, HENRY K. MOORE, CHARLES R. ALLEN, PRENTISS SELBY, JOHN R. JARBOE, N. B. STONE, PELHAM W. AMES, ROBERT BARTON, RAPHAEL WEILL.

I am under personal obligations to the several members of the retiring Board for kindness, consideration, forbearance and assistance in the discharge of the duties of office for the past year.

LOVELL WHITE,
President.

REVISION OF CONSTITUTION AND BY-LAWS.

MERCANTILE LIBRARY ROOMS, }
October 9th, 1876. }

To the Board of Trustees of the Mercantile Library Association:

GENTLEMEN :

The Committee heretofore appointed to examine the By-Laws, Constitution, and general *status* in a legal point of view of the Corporation, respectfully begs leave to submit the following, by way of report in the premises:

I. On the ninth of February, 1874, a Committee consisting of the Recording Secretary (as Chairman), Messrs. LOEWY and SELBY, was appointed to consider the matter of the revision of the By-Laws, with a view to remove therefrom any contradictions or conflicting provisions.

On the fourteenth of June, 1874, a Committee consisting of Messrs. LOEWY, JARBOE, MOORE, BOWIE, and the Recording Secretary, was appointed to examine and report upon the legal *status* of the Association; and further, as to the condition of the title to the lot of land owned by it. As to the title, Mr. JARBOE made a full professional examination and report to the Board of last year.

During the current term, the President appointed the present Committee to carry out the task of the examination of the charter law and the action of the Board and Association thereunder.

II. Under the Committee first named a careful examination was made of the minutes of the Association and of the Board from 1862 down; and everything of any permanent interest in the proceedings was noted, whether as affecting the law of the Corporation or as simply historical in its nature.

From the notes so made, a careful compilation has been effected by the present Committee; a thorough research has been prosecuted; and the Act of the Legislature, under which the Corporation now works, the old Constitution, the By-Laws and the scattering resolutions, passed as well at general meetings as in the Board, have been

carefully collated; and the result is now offered to you in a proper form, accompanied by a full index, together with explanations, notes, and suggestions.

III. The law under which the Corporation now acts consists:

First. Of the Act of the Legislature entitled "An Act in reference to Library Associations," approved April 27th, 1863.

Second. Of the Constitution of the old Stock Company, which has been continued in force in the nature of a by-law of a rather permanent character, to be amended by a two-thirds vote at a members' meeting.

Third. Of By-Laws, changeable by the Board of Trustees.

Fourth. Of resolutions passed from time to time, either by the members at properly called annual or special meetings, or by the Board of Trustees in their semi-monthly meetings.

IV. The fact that the Boards of Trustees have been so ephemeral in their periods of administration; that few, if any, of the members have found time to become acquainted with the law and past action of the Association; that the only knowledge that could be furnished to throw light upon the propriety of any given contemplated action was that derived from a hasty glance at imperfect records of by-laws or the memory of the older members, has rendered the present condition of our law in force uncertain and contradictory in many particulars.

In that behalf, your Committee would respectfully suggest to each and every member of the present Board to read over carefully, in person, the report now offered you, and to see, each for himself, the difficulties and dangers that have accrued from past action, taken possibly, with the most intelligent motives, but with no knowledge of prior attempts in the same direction.

Your Committee has done everything possible to make the matter plain; but their efforts will avail but little if none but the Committee itself is informed in the premises. A couple of hours devoted by each Trustee to an examination of the present state of the By-Laws, as exhibited in our report, will have a most salutary effect upon the business of the Society and enable each one to more efficiently and confidently speak in that regard.

V. It would be useless in this preliminary report to make any special reference to the various matters which need revision.

What, with the index, the notes, and the various sections of the Act of the Legislature, the Constitution, and the By-Laws, the attention of the Board need not be specially or more particularly called by the

Committee to any one matter to the exclusion of others which might, after due reading, probably strike the remainder of the Board as of equal importance.

VI. It is the opinion of your Committee that the whole mass of law of different degrees of effectiveness or permanency should be simplified. The Constitution should be abrogated, and its provisions and restrictions embodied in the By-Laws.

To make such fundamental revision and propose a system of By-Laws based thereon, would require time and labor; no hasty codification would suffice; indeed, instead of remedying the present evils, it might and would add to them.

By-Laws should be few, simple, and certain; simplicity and certainty are attainable only by great labor and care. No one man can, unaided by the historical knowledge of corporation law, and without close consideration of every paragraph and phrase, evolve a system of law out of his inner consciousness that would securely stand the test of practice.

VI. To carry out such a revision, a permanent Committee, consisting as well of Trustees as of members of the Association, should be appointed who should meet and consult concerning each section; seek outside light as well from other corporations as from the common law of the land, and report their opinions and labor to both the Board and the Association.

Such Committee should thenceforth examine every proposed modification at its presentation and see that it harmonizes with whatever else there may be of a kindred nature. If need be, the aid of the Legislature might be evoked to straighten or improve any chance defect there may be in the charter law. Such a course would give a unity and consolidated force to our legal action which it now grievously lacks.

In attempting such exactness in the matters in question, we would benefit not only ourselves and our Association, but would confer a substantial favor upon similar societies all over the land who look to us as a model and example.

We have a right to be proud of our Catalogue as admitted to be one of the best in America. Can we not also carry our accuracy and systematic thoroughness into the legal matters of the society and win for ourselves the eulogium of working under the best system of corporate law?

In the matter of legislative aid in rearranging our charter provisions,

the Committee has one word to say .It has long been apparent that our legal mode of arriving at the Corporation's wishes is a failure. It would hardly be putting it too strongly to say that we never *do* obtain a fair expression. We do not mean, of course, that negative assent of members to the action of the Board, which is manifested by systematically staying away from elections and meetings; *that*, we have enjoyed to the fullest extent: but there is something more than such masterly inactivity desirable. This is not a commercial association for profit, dealing with members on a bargain-and-sale basis. Too many of us are ignorant of the true aim of a Library such as this, and fancy that having paid the monthly dues to some one, one knows not precisely to whom, the direction needs nothing further from the body of members. This Association *does* require something in addition. Payment of the initiation fee is not all. The applicant must sign a Constitution — must *be* a member — not a client or customer; and to that end, he should vote and watch the actions of the Association and its officers; render sympathy and support to his Board of Trustees, and recognize the fact that the Directors' responsibilities are not theirs alone, but rest upon every member who has had an opportunity to attend its meetings and raise his voice for or against the conduct of the officers.

In closing, we must award due consideration to the assistance rendered us by Messrs. WM. B. FULWILER and J. H. BEARDSLEY in the matter of the examination of the Association records, and in enabling us to present our report in its present form and completeness.

All of which is respectfully submitted.

A. H. LOUGHBOROUGH,
H. MOLINEUX,
T. H. REARDEN.

TREASURER'S REPORT

FOR

THE FISCAL YEAR ENDING JAN. 18TH, 1877.

Receipts.

Quarterly Dues.....	\$19,017.00
Initiation Fees.....	563.00
Sales and Forfeiture Books.....	48.25
Catalogues.....	179.20
RENTS—Stores	\$2,160.50
Hall.....	943.50
Attic.....	2,273.75
	<hr/> 5,377.75
Life Memberships.....	400.00
Interest on Coupon Fund.....	418.35
Fines and Sundry Items.....	73.60
	<hr/>
Total income for year.....	\$26,077.15
Balance per last Report.....	1,736.28
	<hr/>
Total.....	\$27,813.43

Expenditures.

Salaries		\$9,361.89
Book Account—Books.....	\$3,810.93	
Periodicals and Newspapers..	1,182.95	
Binding and Printing.....	2,346.95	
	<hr/>	7,340.83
EXPENSE ACCOUNT—Gas.....	\$1,611.41	
Water and Fuel.....	525.75	
Stationery and Advertising..	321.39	
Silver Discount and Interest	} 1,013.55	
on over drafts.		
Miscellaneous	709.85	
	<hr/>	4,181.95
Improvements and Repairs.....		1,451.37
State, City, and County Taxes.....		3,150.30
Insurance.....		1,200.00
LIBRARIAN'S CASH DISBURSEMENTS—		
Book Account.....	\$254.40	
Postoffice	233.65	
Petty Expenses.....	367.80	
	<hr/>	855.85
Total Expenditures for the year.....	\$27,542.19	
Balance forward.....		271.24
	<hr/>	
Total.....	\$27,813.43	

GEO. C. HICKOX,

Treasurer.

SAN FRANCISCO, January 18th, 1877.

LIBRARIAN'S REPORT.

To the President, Board of Trustees, and Members of the Mercantile Library Association:

As required by the Constitution, I herewith submit, for your consideration, at this twenty-fourth annual meeting of the Association, my customary statement of the operations of the Library for the past year, its present condition, and its more immediate wants.

Nothing of extraordinary moment remains to chronicle upon *this* page of the Library's history; and yet the retrospect shows us a year of constant activity and usefulness. With very limited funds at command for purchases, our stock of books has been creditably enlarged. In spite of the varied attractions of Centennial year, drawing many of our members temporarily from the city, the number of books delivered during the year has been exceeded but *twice* in the history of the Institution. The accumulated circulation of books, since its organization, has reached 1,141,802 volumes. When we consider that an equal number have been consulted in the Library room, we find the total number of volumes made use of reaches beyond *two and a quarter million*. Certainly so extensive an acquaintance with books, however superficial, cannot be fruitless.

The circulation of the past year, though not so large, perhaps, as we have a right to expect and hope for, furnishes us nevertheless with comparative ground for encouragement. The total number of volumes issued in 1876 is 87,579, classified as follows:

	VOLS.	PER CT.		VOLS.	PER CT.
Romance	62,551	71.4	Poetry	1,508	1.7
Juveniles	4,580	5.2	Spanish	125	.1
Travels	3,245	3.7	French	2,152	2.5
Biography	2,423	2.7	German	1,069	1.1
Belles-Lettres	1,494	1.7	Religion	597	.7
History	2,812	3.2	Collected Works	1,787	2.4
Science	3,235	3.6			
Total				87,579	100

In regard to the character of the reading matter, shown by analysis of our circulation, we can, at least, assure ourselves that it is not *below*

the accepted average of public libraries. I do not think our patrons exceptionally inferior, or exceptionally superior to those of other similar institutions. The experience of all public libraries shows, invariably, that the proportion of prose fiction read will always approximate to 75 per cent. of the entire issue.

By our statistics of circulation it will be seen that 71 4-10 per cent. of the reading done in 1876 was in the department of fiction; 68 8-10 per cent. in 1875; 69 8-10 per cent. in 1874, and 67 3-10 per cent. in 1873, making the average percentage of fiction for the last four years, 69 3-10 per cent., considerably below the conceded rate. That three-fourths of the books issued from public libraries will be novels, appears to be the law of popular reading; nor does it, though seemingly a large proportion, justify the clamor continually raised against the Library as the sole responsible party.

Mr. POOLE of the Chicago Public Library, fitly called the "Nestor of Librarians," in a recent paper entitled "Some popular objections to Public Libraries," enters quite fully upon the point in question. He says: "These objections (to the kind of books circulated), which are usually made by educated and scholarly persons, are based on an entire misconception of the facts in the case. The objectors do not divest themselves of the old idea that libraries are established for the exclusive benefit of scholars; whereas the purpose of them is to furnish reading for all classes in the community. The masses of a community have very little of literary and scholarly culture. They need more of this culture, and the purpose of the library is to develop and increase it. This is done by placing in their hands such books as they can read with pleasure and appreciate, and by stimulating them to acquire the *habit* of reading. We must first interest the reader before we educate him; and to this end must commence at his own standard of intelligence. Our objector supposes that the masses will read books of his standard, if they were not supplied with the books to which he objects; but he is mistaken. Shut up to this choice they will read *no* books. Fiction," he continues, "is the art element in literature, and the most enduring monuments of genius in the literature of any people are works of the imagination. It is said that there is much poor fiction, and the statement is true. So there are many poor pictures and poor statues, wretched chromos and more wretched plaster casts. That their productions find purchasers is evidence that there are persons whose ideal standard of excellence is even below these feeble efforts, and they are educated thereby." He concludes: "In the public libraries which are growing up in our land, fully four-fifths of

Binding.

A very large and constant item of a library's expenditure is that of binding. This results from the very loose manner in which a majority of the English cloth books, and also American novels, are bound, when published; and the rough and careless usage they receive in circulation. English publications, which we receive in cloth covers, are purposely so put together, for re-binding to suit the individual taste, and are so poorly stitched, that few can be given out more than once or twice with any security, and instances are not rare when forms yield and fall out while being unpacked. The same is true, in nearly as great a degree, of our American novels. A great portion of them are received in cloth, and too frequently come apart in the back upon the first strain. At this stage re-binding alone will save the book. Many come in paper covers and are immediately bound here in half roan, with much more lasting results.

During the past year there have been 2,079 volumes re-bound (including those received in paper), of which 1,569 (principally novels) were cheaply done in half roan, and 510 more durably in half calf, morocco, Russia or sheep. This work has been done at a total expense of \$1,607 30, or about 76 cents per volume. The same item for 1875 was \$1,603 70, and for 1874, \$1,647 45, being an average of nearly \$135 per month. Novels, though numerically treble all other works, share less than one half the expenditure, being bound at the low rate of *fifty cents* per volume.

Donations.

As appears in the list of donations in Appendix "A," the librar has been the recipient, during the year of about the usual number of miscellaneous books and pamphlets, to the donors of which, this public acknowledgment of our appreciation of the same is due and gladly made. Complimentary copies of Pacific Coast papers have been continued, and our indebtedness therefor is accordingly expressed in the heading of the list. Among the numerous donors, the following, from the amount of their gifts, are deserving of special mention: Sir REDMOND BARRY, Chief Justice of Victoria, and President of the Melbourne Public Library, who favored us with a visit in the early part of the year, caused to be sent to us forty volumes of books and a dozen pamphlets, principally relating to the resources and government of Australia. Dr. SAMUEL A. GREEN, of Boston, who has generously remembered us in preceding years, has supplied us, this year, with 1 book and 73 pamphlets. Mr. E. O. WEINER kindly gave to the Library twenty-seven volumes of the French series, "Bibliothèque Na-

ionale." Mr. J. M. HUTCHINGS made an important addition to our collection of stereoscopic views, in the shape of 65 new ones, obtained during his recent trip, of the King's river cañon and surrounding country. The total number of books on the list is 165, and of pamphlets, 279.

MEMBERSHIP.

During the year *four hundred and eighty-seven* new names have been added to the list of *subscribing* members, and *four* gentlemen, by the payment of the required sum, have become *life members*.

The membership of the Association, at the present time, stands as follows:

Subscribing members.....	1,545
Life members	321
Honorary members.....	92
	<hr/>
Total	1,958

CATALOGUES.

The following are the sales of the several Catalogues of the Library since the last report, viz:

363 @ \$ 25	\$.90 75
1 @ 20	20
14 @ 3 00	42 00
3 @ 1 00	3 00
1 @ 2 50	2 50
54 @ 75	40 50
<hr/>	<hr/>
436	\$178 95

Making a total of 436 Catalogues, and realizing the amount of \$178 95. A recapitulatory statement dating from their respective issues is added as a matter of interest.

CATALOGUE OF 1874.

Entire edition issued	1,650
Number of copies sold.....	893
Number of copies donated.	75
Number of copies on hand	682
	<hr/>
	1,650

CATALOGUE OF 1875.

Entire edition issued	750
Number of copies sold.....	117
Number of copies donated	62
Number of copies on hand.....	571
	<hr/>
	750

CLASS LIST OF FICTION.

Entire edition issued.	1,500
Number of copies sold	413
Number of copies donated	60
Number of copies on hand.	1,027
	<hr/> 1,500
Total No. of 1874 Catalogues sold, 893. Am't realized. \$3,243 00	
Total No. of 1875 Catalogues sold, 114. Am't realized 86 00	
Total No. Class L. of Fiction sold, 413. Am't realized 103 20	
	<hr/>
Total number sold.	1,420
Total amount received from sales.	\$3,432 20

The publication of a Catalogue has never been looked upon, I believe, as a profitable transaction to a Library, in a *pecuniary* sense. The profit of its issue consists in making accessible the hidden treasures of a collection; in increasing the facilities for finding the matter sought, and in promoting, by these means, the pleasure, profit and enlightenment of its patrons. Resorting to comparison, again, we can claim for our venture, in this direction, more than ordinary success. The Catalogue of the Philadelphia Mercantile Library, a book of 700 pages, published in 1870, cost \$5,000, without including the salaries of those engaged in preparing it, or the binding of 2,500 copies. The Librarian says, "We sold it, bound in cloth, for \$2 50. As few were sold, the price was afterwards reduced to \$1 00. Altogether we have received less than \$1,100 from the sale of the Catalogue."

Mr. WINSOR, Superintendent of the Boston Public Library, says: "It seldom or never happens that a Catalogue can be made to pay the cost of printing, making no account of the cost of preparation and the labor of seeing it through the press. We have pursued the policy at Boston of attaching only such a price to our Catalogue as will prevent waste. The latest of our issues, that of the Roxbury Branch, cost a dollar and a quarter to print per copy, and we sold it for *thirty cents*. A large Library seldom prints more than one; and the Boston Public Library will probably hereafter confine the printed Catalogues of its main collection to such as may cover special classes or collections. With its popular department it cannot fail to make frequent reissues, corrected to date."

The question of Catalogues, for a popular Library, is an ever perplexing one. The *system* once established, there remains to determine *what, how much, and how often* to print. This proves a difficult

matter, especially if the expense is to become an important item in the consideration, since printing, in any form, is expensive.

In popular departments of Libraries, and in popular Libraries like our own, it is obligatory to keep before the readers accession lists of books, in printed form, up to the latest date possible. We started upon the year just expired, with a "Catalogue of additions for 1875," almost to date, and a "Class List of Prose Fiction," not a day old. These have served us satisfactorily for a year, supplemented, as they have been, by the bulletin-boards on either side of the desk, upon which are posted as fast as received, in bold pencil marks, all new books, with division-letter and number attached. By the kindness of the editor of the "Pacific Life," lists of our new books have, of late, been published in that paper every week, with the same arrangement of title and number as is used on the bulletins. These lists are now cut out as fast as issued, and placed upon the bulletin-boards, and prove a great aid in the matter of search. When these become old and are replaced by those of later date, they are themselves pasted into a book, which lies upon the counter for permanent reference. Subscribers to the Journal referred to, can, with little trouble, by preserving these lists, as they appear from week to week, have for their own reference a continued and permanent Catalogue.

By these various means we have, thus far, been enabled to keep before our readers quite a good showing of the year's additions. But it is only a small portion of the very latest that remains in sight, while works six, nine and even twelve months old, considered, as they are, recent literature, and demanded as such, have no apparent representation except in the card Catalogue. Our "Class List of Prose Fiction" is now a year old, and is no longer a fair hand-book of the novels now in the collection. Of this, I would recommend the early publication of a new edition. One of our card Catalogues, which is termed the "Skeleton Catalogue," contains only the author's entry (and that often abbreviated), excluding all serial publications, transactions of learned societies, etc. etc. This, in printed form, would make a concise volume and form an index to all the principal works received since the supplement of 1875. I would also suggest for your consideration, as, in my opinion, a much needed aid to readers, the publication, from time to time, as is deemed practicable, of Class Lists of some special departments; as, for example, Poetry, the French collection, and the German collection, extending, in time, to Biography, Travels and others. The plan is undoubtedly a great incentive to reading and study in the

particular classes thus brought before the reader, as shown by the great increase in circulation, wherever the experiment has been tried.

CONCLUDING REMARKS.

This report would be incomplete were it to close without some reference to the marked and important interest manifested during the past year in Public Libraries, and the great impetus given to library work, in general, by the hearty co-operation of Librarians, and their permanent organization for the promotion of the entire Library interest throughout the United States.

That *our* people have not, for a variety of reasons, come to feel the same interest in libraries and library work that is manifested in the older cities of the Eastern States; and that our remoteness from all great book centers and from the scenes of book-making and book-collecting precludes an intimate knowledge of, and consequent sympathy with the enthusiasm which really exists, seem to us additional reasons why attention should be directed to the fact at this time.

Three events of importance in this connection are worthy the notice of all interested in institutions of a nature similar to our own:

First should be mentioned the publication of the "Special report upon the Public Libraries of the United States," issued by the National Bureau of Education at Washington, as a portion of its Centennial educational exhibit. It forms a volume of 1,000 pages, and is replete with information, historical, technical, and statistical, upon all matters relating to the management of Libraries, the erection and arrangement of library buildings, the collection and preservation of books, the various kinds of Catalogues, with their respective advantages and disadvantages; and instructions, in minute detail, for the establishment of Libraries, with provisional directions for their management and indefinite growth and expansion. The treatment is in form of papers or monographs, prepared by men who occupy the most prominent positions in library management in the country, and who may be classed as specialists in their respective departments, knowing whereof they write. The work furnishes us with results arrived at only by years of labor in various fields; gives a complete review of library progress in the United States, and forms a most useful compendium for the Librarian.

As *second* in importance I would refer to the Conference of Librarians, held in Philadelphia, October 4, 1876. The call was forwarded by the National Bureau of Education to all the leading Libraries of this country and Europe, which resulted in assembling, at the rooms

of the Historical Society of Pennsylvania, representatives of nearly one hundred and fifty Libraries.

MR. JOHN WM. WALLACE, President of the Pennsylvania Historical Society, in his opening address, states the labor before the Conference, as follows: "It has been somewhat obvious, I think, for several years past, and is now entirely plain, that, with the much-increased and still more increasing issue of books from the printing press, several matters, up to this time little thought of by Librarians—indeed, not requiring to be much thought of by them—now demand consideration, and so far as practicable, a provision for the time, not far distant, when they are likely to come upon us. * * * * * I see nothing which, in coming years, is to stand between the Librarian and an issue upon him of books upon books so vast and uninterrupted that, unless he brings the benefit of something like SCIENCE to his aid, he will be overwhelmed and buried in their very mass."

The object of the Conference, in a broad sense, may be thus defined: to determine, by mutual interchange of ideas, by comparison of methods and systems, upon such means, materials and methods, as applied to the management of Libraries, will render them the most available and effective; in a word, to reduce Library economy to a SCIENCE.

Papers of the highest practical value to the managers of Libraries were read by the leading Librarians of the country, and, in open discussions which followed, the varied views of the Conference, on the particular points presented, were freely exchanged. They will become matters for study and reference to Librarians and to all interested in library management. As the most permanent results of the Conference, perhaps, should be named—the organization of the "American Library Association," from which will, of course, follow frequent recurrences of the Conference; the determination of Mr. W. F. POOLE to extend, with the support of the Conference, his valuable "Index to Periodical Literature," to present date; the prospective work of the Committees on the co-operative cataloguing and size-description; and the result, practically reached, of abolishing the twenty per cent. limit of discount insisted upon, by the trade, to public libraries.

The *third* direction library impulse has taken during the year is in the establishment of a monthly periodical, called "The American Library Journal," intended to cover, according to its announcement, the entire field of library and bibliographical interests. Its leading pages will be devoted to papers upon important library topics by those specially qualified to discuss them. "It will have its departments for

‘Communications,’ ‘Notes and Queries,’ ‘Pseudonyms’ and ‘Anonyms,’ ‘Bibliography,’ ‘General Notes,’ etc. etc., thus supplying a long-felt want, a medium of communication between Librarians. The ‘Journal’ was adopted as the official organ of the Librarian’s Conference, and its pages contain, in full, in special numbers, the proceedings and papers of the recent meeting at Philadelphia.

Thus, in the language of the “Journal,” “1876 will be noted for the publication of the *magnum opus* of library literature, the Government Report ; for the national—in fact international—Conference at Philadelphia, leading, we may hope, to a general organization of abiding usefulness; and, let us hope also, for the establishment of a journalistic medium of exchanging thought and expression that will earn for itself a permanent place.”

A. E. WHITAKER,

Librarian.

INAUGURAL REMARKS OF CHARLES WOLCOTT
BROOKS, PRESIDENT ELECT.

Fellow Members of the Mercantile Library Association :

It is customary and eminently proper, upon the acceptance of a trust — honorable as the one with which we are now invested — that the members of a new board should return thanks to the electors of this Association, for the distinguished mark of confidence conferred upon them.

It is my privilege — having been nominated by both parties, without previous consultation with either — to enter upon the duties of office, untrammelled by any promise whatever, save a self-imposed anxiety to promote harmony and good feeling. By a just administration of affairs, free from party or personal prejudice, we hope, upon truly broad, cultivated, and cosmopolitan principles, to ensure the greatest good to the greatest number. The officers elect have met but once in conference, and this is the only platform adopted. Their policy will be, to advance the best interest of the institution, as it may develop and appear at the time. If any inference is to be drawn from the late canvas, it is understood to be, that the Association thereby confirms and approves the policy of its previous administration.

In the natural heat of election, fictitious issues were hastily raised, and ascribed to the Board elect, upon which I have yet to learn, that even an opinion has been expressed. My office is not the President of a faction, but of an Association, where all are equally entitled to be heard, and minorities consulted as well as majorities. Rest assured, that we deprecate any hasty or precipitate action. We are not those who, in the arbitrary pride of power, would heap Pelion upon Ossa, and scale the heavens, to seat our individual judgment upon an almighty throne. Guard well the Library, from the fantastic tricks of any brief authority, unguided by a calm brain, pure purpose, and true heart.

Should a majority of members advocate a removal of the Library to some more eligible site, no decisive action will be favored by me, until every member shall have been afforded an opportunity of

expressing approval or dissent. Blank circulars might be addressed by mail to each voter, to be returned to the Library, endorsed with an expression of opinion.

These remarks have been ventured with a view of relieving the new Board from any false position, and from a feeling that some explanation was due to those who voted the Opposition Ticket. The management invite the general co-operation of all interests, and hope, by a just administration, to acquire a strong and united influence, for the best interests of the Library.

Do not expect too much of us; ways and means are fundamental questions, and whatever our desire may be, the sinews of war, and the might of the ruler, are all in bondage to the banker's pen.

We have listened with much interest to the very able reports which have been presented this evening, and may rightly heed the judgment, and benefit by the experience of our predecessors in office, who retire after an active term of faithful service. Our business, is with the future; and our responsibilities will be measured by our facilities and opportunities. Each year opens wider fields, to the philanthropic exertions of intellectual man. Zeno himself could not keep cool, amidst such universal, multiform, constant excitement, as we have daily around us.

Whatever tends to advance science; promote a right theory of life, and the happiness connected with sound morals; to improve the arts of living; to refine the general taste; to enlarge the public mind; to throw elevating and endearing associations around our city, state, and country, should be the aim of this Institution.

While it were folly to deny the incompleteness of our Library, we should be highly encouraged that the Association has achieved so much in a new city, far removed from the world's great literary centres. Let the influence of this Library be felt for the credit of our city, as well as of its members. Having participated in its days of small beginning, when it occupied but a single room in an upper story on the south side of Montgomery block, I fully realize, and rejoice with you, at its present growth.

A marked revolution in human development is going on. There has been awakened an unmistakable and increasing disposition, to philosophical methods of thought and action. The refinement of scholarship is finding a place, among the momentous changes now rapidly succeeding each other, in our young city of giant growth and strength. In no foreign country is there greater demand for newspapers, periodicals and books, among the masses.

We have our publishing houses; and one standard work at least has been published here, during the past year, which is destined to live, be quoted, and shine pre-eminently, when the dusky mantle of time shall have been silently folded, over us all. Mercantile intercourse and foreign commerce, have developed freedom and toleration. The commerce of the world is coming under control of the English-speaking race. We are fortunate in the circumstances of our birth. The empire of our language will follow that of our commerce, and the empire of our institutions that of our language. The successful libraries of America will yet speak to all the western world.

In Europe war is a constant threat. In some countries the pawns have already tossed kings and queens, knights, bishops, and rookish nobles from the board, to play out the game among themselves. With peace and prosperity, who can picture the ultimate grandeur of our city, and the education and refinement of its people.

The instinct of inquiry, manifest in every American born, is the spirit which has led to the foundation of Libraries. The lecture-room is the fit companion of the Library, and should not be neglected. Let us seek out, and encourage public lecturers, capable of interesting and instructing us. Every city has a claim upon its literary men, and none should shrink from the labor or responsibility, of serving and fostering so useful an institution, as the one over which we are called to preside. All educated men should willingly assist it, in the cultivation of a high, generous and unsectional public sentiment.

Every administration is largely dependent upon its executive committees, for a judicious division, and reciprocity of labor.

The By-Laws of this Association prescribe, that the President shall appoint the Standing Committees of this Board, each of which shall consist of three Trustees.

It affords me pleasure to commend to you these gentlemen whom I have carefully selected from a belief in their entire fitness for the special duties devolving upon them. Among so many capable men, it has been difficult to choose. While some names must of necessity appear first in order, I desire to impress upon you all, that you are equally charged with concurrent duties; enjoy equal privileges and honor; share equal responsibilities; and are joint co-laborers in a good and benevolent work.

A book of record has been prepared, under instructions to be kept accessible at all times to members, wherein complaints and suggestions may be entered by any one, over their signature. A reliable

channel of communication is thus established, sure of reaching the attention of the Board, who will promptly consider all such suggestions.

Thanking the retiring officers, for their faithful and efficient service during the past year, we accept the duties, cares, and responsibilities devolving upon us, in the year that is to come.

We appeal to our fellow members, as thoughtful men gifted with intellectual tastes, for their hearty co-operation; and trust that mutual frankness may prevail, and good feeling prove to be the signal characteristic of the incoming year.

APPENDIX "A."

List of Donations for 1876.

	BOOKS.	PAMPHLETS.	PAPERS.		BOOKS.	PAMPALETS.	PAPERS.
Allen, Chas. R.....	1	1	....	Fentress, G. W.....	1	....	....
Amherst College.....	4	....	....	Fitzgerald, N.....	1	....	....
Andrews, J. W.....	2	....	....	Gibson, W. N.....	1	....	....
Apprentices' Library, Phila...	3	....	....	Goddard, H. K.....	2	....	....
Apprentices' Library, N. Y....	1	....	....	Godon, Dr. F. W.....	1	....	....
Art Association, S. F.....	1	....	....	Grant, A. S.....	1	....	....
Atwood, C. G.....	1	....	....	Green, Samuel A.....	3	8)	....
Bacon, J.....	1	3	....	Grisar, E. & Co.....	1	....	....
Bailey, J. J.....	1	....	....	Gurney, Wm. H.....	4	....	....
Baker, W. E. S.....	1	....	....	Hall, E. W.....	5	....	....
Barber, Wm.....	1	....	....	Harvard College, Mass.....	1	....	....
Barrowman, R. L.....	1	....	....	Harvey, J. A.....	....	1	....
Barry, Sir Redmond.....	20	11	....	Hill, Barton.....	4	....	....
Beck, Robert.....	....	....	....	Hill, W. J.....	....	1	....
Bickford, W. H.....	2	....	....	Hittell, J. S.....	2	....	....
Bishop, S. M.....	1	1	....	Hopkins, C. T.....	1	....	....
Booth, Newton.....	6	....	....	Hopkins, W.....	1	....	....
Boston Pub. Library.....	2	....	....	Humphrey, Gen'l A. A.....	1	....	....
Brigham, Chas. B.....	1	....	....	Humphreys, W. P.....	....	1	....
Brookline (Mass.) Pub. Lib...	1	....	....	Hunt, J. J.....	1	....	....
Brooklyn (N. Y.) Merc'le Lib.	1	....	....	Indianapolis Pub. Library.....	1	....	....
Burnham, G.....	1	1	....	Johnson, Sidney L.....	2	....	....
Bush, L. M.....	1	....	....	Jones, J. P.....	6	....	....
Casanueva, F. de.....	1	....	....	Jones, Sam'l A.....	....	1	....
Chicago Pub. Library.....	1	....	....	Kelly, A. W.....	1	6	....
Clark, A. M.....	1	....	....	Knapp, C.....	4	....	....
Clark, W. S.....	1	....	....	Krueger, W. G.....	1	....	....
Coffin, J. H.....	1	....	....	Lake Co. Cal.....	1	....	....
Colby University, Me.....	1	....	....	Lancaster (Mass.) Library.....	1	....	....
Colusa Co. Directory.....	1	....	....	Langridge, W. B.....	6	....	....
Craig, F. W.....	1	....	....	Latimer, F. H.....	1	....	....
Curtis, H. P.....	1	....	....	Los Angeles Cham. of Com'ce.	2	....	....
Davis, A. Barker.....	8	....	....	Lowell (Mass.) City Library..	1	....	....
Davis, A. McF.....	1	....	....	Lull, Louis R.....	1	....	....
Davis, Horace.....	1	....	....	McGraw, E. W.....	3	....	....
Dawson, T. M.....	1	....	....	MacIntire, Thos.....	1	....	....
Daultrey, A.....	2	....	....	Macrum, J. M.....	1	....	....
Depierris, Dr. H. A.....	1	....	....	Makinney, H. E.....	1	....	....
Detroit (Mich.) Board of Ede'n	2	....	....	Manch'r (Eng.) Free Pub. Libs	1	....	....
Dom Pedro II., Emp'r of Brazil	1	....	....	Markley, J.....	1	....	....
Durrie, D. S.....	2	....	....	Mass. State Board of Health..	1	....	....
Eastman, G. W.....	1	....	....	Mass. State Library.....	2	....	....
Evansville (Ind.) Pub. Lib....	1	....	....	Maxwell, S. L.....	....	1	....
Farnham L.....	1	....	....	Mechanics' Institute, S. F....	1	....	....

	Books.	PAMPHLETS.	PAPERS.		Books.	PAMPHLETS.	PAPERS.
Meek, E. E.....	1	.....	.....	Stont, Wm.....	.....	1	.....
Meeker, David.....	.....	1	.....	Stowell, Sir W. F.....	.....	1	.....
Melbourne Pnb. Library.....	2	.....	.....	Strange, H.....	.....	1	.....
Morris, Robt.....	3	.....	.....	Stuart, Mrs. A. H. H.....	.....	1	.....
New Bedford Free Pnb. Lib.....	.....	1	.....	Sumner, C. A.....	.....	1	.....
New Zealand Government.....	1	.....	.....	Swan, R. W.....	.....	1	.....
North, Mrs. Ada.....	1	.....	.....	Swing, J. W.....	.....	1	.....
Northern, A. H.....	1	.....	.....	Thomas, J. M.....	.....	1	.....
Oakland Evening Democrat.....	.....	1	.....	Toohy & Aulbach.....	.....	.....	1
Odd Fellows' Lib., S. F.....	.....	1	.....	Tyler, A. W.....	.....	1	.....
Oregon Pioneer Association.....	.....	1	.....	U. S. Bureau of Education.....	1	.....	.....
Palmer, F ^k W.....	.....	1	.....	“ Coast Survey.....	1	.....	.....
Palmer, J. & Co.....	1	1	.....	“ Departm't of the Interior.....	4	2	.....
Park Com. of S. F.....	2	.....	.....	“ Engineers' Department.....	4	.....	.....
Peabody Institute, Mass.....	.....	1	.....	“ Geolog. & Geograp'l Snr.....	1	4	.....
Pease, Dr. G. M.....	1	.....	.....	“ Ordinance Department.....	1	.....	.....
Peck, H.....	.....	1	.....	“ Treasury Department.....	4	.....	.....
Perceval, E. A., Jr.....	3	.....	.....	“ War Department.....	1	.....	.....
Philadelphia Library Co.....	.....	1	.....	Unknown.....	4	17	.....
Piggatt, Thos.....	.....	1	.....	University of California.....	.....	1	.....
Providence Athenæum.....	.....	1	.....	University of Vermont.....	.....	1	.....
Qnaritch, B.....	.....	2	.....	Utting, A. & R.....	.....	.....	1
Rand, McNally & Co.....	4	.....	.....	Varsi, A. S. J.....	.....	1	.....
Redmond, R. M.....	.....	1	.....	Victoria Pnb. Library.....	.....	2	.....
Reed, Chas. G.....	.....	1	.....	Ward, J. W. J.....	.....	1	.....
Reynolds, Thos. H.....	.....	1	.....	Warner.....	.....	30	.....
Rice, Geo. H.....	.....	1	.....	Weiner, E. O.....	27	.....	.....
Rice, Wm.....	.....	1	.....	Western Reserve College.....	.....	1	.....
Rodgers, C. R. P.....	1	.....	.....	Whitney, F. B.....	1	.....	.....
Ruggles, S. B.....	.....	1	.....	Whittenmeyer, L. C.....	.....	1	.....
St. Louis Mercantile Library.....	1	.....	.....	Williams, Jas.....	1	.....	.....
San Joaquin Co.....	.....	1	.....	Wilmington (Del.) Institute.....	.....	1	.....
Shurtliff, G. A.....	.....	4	.....	Wilson, J. L.....	.....	1	.....
Shafter, J. McM.....	4	.....	.....	Winsor, J.....	.....	1	.....
Siedenbnrg, J. C.....	1	.....	.....	Winston, G. S.....	1	.....	.....
Smithsonian Institntion.....	3	.....	.....	Wood, A. A.....	.....	1	.....
Social Science Ass.....	.....	2	.....	Yohn, A. B.....	1	.....	.....
Sontheimer, J. J.....	1	.....	.....	Yale College.....	.....	1	.....
Springfield (Mass.) City Lib.....	.....	1	.....			
Stallard, J. H.....	1	.....	.....		
Stewart, Jas.....	.....	.....	1				
				Total.....	165	279	10

APPENDIX "B."

LIST OF A FEW OF THE MORE IMPORTANT WORKS

ADDED TO THE LIBRARY IN 1876.

[PUBLISHED IN 1876, UNLESS OTHERWISE INDICATED.]

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| ADAMS, JNO. Q.—Memoirs, vols. 7-10. Phil., 1875-6. 4 vols., 8vo. | C 196. |
| ALBEMARLE, GEO. T. K. (<i>Earl of</i>).—Fifty Years of my Life. Lond. 2 vols., 8vo. | C 1115. |
| ALDEN, JOS.—Studies in Bryant. N. Y. 16mo. | E 655. |
| AMBERLEY, JNO. R. (<i>Viscount</i>).—Analysis of Religious Belief. Lond. 2 vols., 8vo. | F 950. |
| AMERICAN ANNUAL CYCLOPÆDIA for 1875.—Vol. 15. N. Y. 4to. | X 124. |
| SAME.—General Index, embracing vols. 1-15. N. Y. 8vo. | X 124. |
| ANDERSON, JNO.—Mandalay to Momien. Lond. 8vo. | I 1343. |
| AUDSLEY, G. A. and BOWERS, J. L.—Keramic Art of Japan. Liverpool, 1875. 4to. | S 100. |
| AUSTIN, GEO. L.—History of Massachusetts. Bost. 8vo. | B 1412. |
| BALL, R. S.—Theory of Screws. Dublin. 8vo. | D 3151. |
| BELLAMY, G. S.—New Shakesperian Dictionary. Lond., 1875. 8vo. | X 210. |
| BELLARS, WM.—Fine Arts and their Uses. Lond. 12mo. | D 2150. |
| BIDWELL, C. T.—Balearic Islands. Lond. 12mo. | I 1394. |
| BIDWELL, C. T.—Cost of Living Abroad. Lond. 12mo. | D 3290. |
| BLAKE, MRS. E. (<i>Elith Osborne</i>).—Twelve Months in Southern Europe. Lond. 8vo. | I 1299. |
| BLEEK, W. H. J.—Brief Account of Bushmen. Lond. 4to. | D 3157. |
| BLOCK, M. L.—Europe Politique et Sociale. Paris, 1839. 8vo. | Fr. 763. |
| BODDAM-WETHAM, J. W.—Pearls of the Pacific. Lond. 8vo. | I 1317. |
| BOGLE, G., and MANNING T.—Narrative of Journeys to Thibet. Lond. 8vo. | I 1338. |
| BOLLER, A. P.—Practical Treatise on the Construction of Iron Highway Bridges. N. Y. 8vo. | D 3243. |
| BOLLES, A. S.—Conflict between Labor and Capital. Phil. 12mo. | D 3180. |
| BROWNING, ROB'T—Inn Album, The. Boston. 12mo. | K 790. |
| BROWNING, ROB'T—Pacchiaretto and how he worked in Distemper. Bost. 12mo. | K 847. |
| BRYANT, W. C., and GAY, S. H.—Popular History of the United States. Vol. I. N. Y. 8vo. | B 1419. |
| CAMPEN, S. R. VAN—Dutch in the Arctic Sea. Lond. 8vo. | I 1400. |
| CANOVA, A.—Works in Sculpture and Modelling. Lond., 1824. 2 vols., 8vo. | T 425. |
| CERNUSCHI, H. M.—Michel Chevalier et le bimétallisme. | Fr. 767. |
| CEYLON.—A general description of the Island of. Lond. 2 vols., 8vo. | I 1331. |
| CLAYTON, E. C.—English female Artists. Lond. 2 vols., 8vo. | C 1121. |
| CONE, M.—Two Years in California. Chicago, 12mo. | I 1359. |
| COOPER, W. R.—Archaic Dictionary. Lond. 8vo. | X 213. |
| COOTE, W.—Three Months in the Mediterranean. Lond., 1875. 12mo. | I 1306. |
| CORREGGIO, A. A. DA—From the German of Dr. J. Meyer. Lond. Roy. 8vo. | T 411. |
| CORY, ISAAC P.—Ancient fragments. Lond. 8vo. | B 1465. |
| CRACE-CALVERT, F.—Dyeing and Calico Printing. Manchester, 8vo. | D 3119. |
| CURTIS, GEO. T.—History of the origin, formation and adoption of the Constitution of the United States. N. Y., 1859. 2 vols., 8vo. | B 1423. |
| DAMMANN, C., and F. W.—Ethnological photographic gallery of the various races of Man. Lond., 1875. 4to. | S 89. |
| DARWIN, C. (R.).—Movements and habits of climbing plants. N. Y. 12mo. | D 3096. |
| DAVILLIER, BARON C.—Spain, Illustrated by G. Doré. Lond. 4to. | T 410. |
| DOMSTHORPE, W.—Principles of Plutology. Lond. 8vo. | D 3281. |
| DOWDEN, ED.—Shakespeare scenes and characters. Lond. 4to. | T 419. |

- DREW, F.—Jummoo and Kashmir Territories. Lond., 1875. 8vo. I 1353.
 DUDEVANT, A. L. A. (*George Sand*)—Impressions and Reminiscences. Bost. 12mo. E 664.
 DUFFEY, Jno. B.—Lives and portraits of all the Presidents from Washington to Grant. Phil. 12mo. C 1088.
 DURAVEN, E. R. W. W. Q. (*Earl of*)—Great divide, The. Lond. 8vo. I 1324.
 EABLE, J.—Philology of the English tongue. Oxford, 1873. 12mo. D 903.
 ENCYCLOPÆDIA BRITANNICA—(9th ed.). vols. 1-4. Lond. 4 vols., 4to. X 128.
 EVANS, A. J.—Through Bosnia and the Herzegovina. Lond. 8vo. I 1392.
 FARLEY, J. L.—Turks and Christians. Lond. 8vo. I 1325.
 FERGUSON, J.—History of India. Lond. 8vo. D 3220.
 FIRST CENTURY OF THE REPUBLIC. N. Y. 8vo. D 3281.
 FISHER, W. M.—The Californians. Lond. 12mo. B 1478.
 FLOURENS, EMILE—Organization judiciaire et administrative de la France et de la Belgique. Paris, 1875. 8vo. F 762.
 FORNEY, J. W.—Centennial Commissioner in Europe. Phil. 12mo. I 1346.
 FORREST, JOHN—Explorations in Australia. Lond., 1875. 8vo. I 1311.
 FREEMAN, E. A.—Historical and architectural sketches. Lond. 12mo. D 3315.
 FREEMAN, E. A.—History and Conquest of the Saracens. Lond. 12mo. B 1467.
 FROTHINGHAM, O. B.—Transcendentalism in New England. N. Y. 12mo. F 969.
 GALLENGA, A.—Italy revisited. Lond., 1875. 2 vols., 8vo. I 1296.
 GERKE, JAMES—Great ice age. N. Y., 1775. 8vo. D 3201.
 GERMAN HOME LIFE (*Avon*). Lond., 12mo. I 1402.
 GLADSTONE, WM. E.—Bulgarian horrors. Lond. 8vo. B 1486.
 GLOBE Encyclopædia of Useful Information, vol. 1. A. Cow: Edinb. 4to. X 219.
 GOODENOUGH, J. G.—Journal during his last command as senior officer on the Australian Station. Lond. 8vo. C 1125.
 GOSTWICK, J., and HARRISON R.—Outline of German Literature. Lond., 1873. 12mo. E 643.
 GRAY, ASA—Darwiniana. N. Y. 12mo. D3278.
 GREG, W. R.—Mistaken aims and attainable ideals of the artizan class. Lond. 12mo. D 3224.
 GRIFFIS, WM. E.—Mikado's Empire, The. N. Y. 8vo. I 1386.
 GROHMAN, W., A.B.—Tyrol and the Tyrolese. Lond. 12mo. I 1318.
 GROVE, F. C.—Frosty Caucasus. Lond., 1875. 12mo. I 1310.
 HAECKEL, E.—History of Creation. N. Y. 2 vols., 12mo. D 3098.
 HAMERTON, P. G.—Etching and Etchers (new ed.). Lond. 8vo. T 335.
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 ———— " "—Sylvan Year, The. Bost. 8vo. T 377.
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<i>Vice President</i> ...Andrew W. McKee.		<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ..J. M. Shotwell.
<i>Treasurer</i> ... Jules David.		
<i>Directors</i> —P. Verplanck, Jr., C. H. Raymond, M. J. Burke, Samuel Hubbard, T. J. Lamb, George Howes, Wm. Arrington, Benjamin Haynes, W. F. Parker.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....Horace H. Moore	|	<i>Assistants</i> .. J. J. Tayker, D. E. Webb.

OFFICERS, 1858.

<i>President</i>.....E. H. Washburn.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> , Samuel Hubbard.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Jos. A. Donahue.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> . B. Watkins Leigh.
<i>Treasurer</i>		Jos. M. Shotwell.

Directors—A. L. Tubbs, C. H. Raymond, Thos. S. Miller, Jos. S. Paxson, Julius K. Rose, Albert Miller, R. B. Swain, P. T. Southworth, Jacob B. Moore.
Librarian.....Horace H. Moore | *Assistants*...D. E. Webb, J. J. Tayker,

OFFICERS, 1859.

<i>President</i>.....D. C. McRuer.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ... Henry C. Lee.
<i>Vice President</i>.....H. Carlton, Jr.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ... Ed. J. Pringle.
<i>Treasurer</i>		T. C. Banks.

Directors—F. A. Holman, J. C. Stone, E. J. Muygridge, Joshua Barker, J. W. White, Henry H. Haight, J. B. Swasey, S. C. Bigelow, Joseph Hobart.
Librarian..... Horace H. Moore. | *Assistants*..D. E. Webb, J. J. Tayker.

OFFICERS, 1860.

<i>President</i>.....Wm. H. Stevens.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>.....E. Hunt.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Wm. R. Garrison.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ... R. B. Swain.
<i>Treasurer</i>		J. G. Kellogg.

Directors—Chas. Wolcott Brooks, Frank Baker, D. P. Belknap, Wm. Norris Jas. W. J. Pierson, John Shaw, H. C. Macy, Charles R. Bond, Thos. Bennett.
Librarian..... Horace H. Moore | *Assistants*..D. E. Webb, J. J. Tayker.

OFFICERS, 1861.

<i>President</i>.....James W. White.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ..E. H. Jacquelin.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Thomas J. Lamb.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> .Walter Martineau.
<i>Treasurer</i>		Benj. Smith.

Directors—Maj. H. Leonard, John S. Davies, R. C. Rogers, J. M. Strobridge, A. L. Edwards, J. P. Nourse, I. Lawrence Pool, J. C. Johnson, J. M. McNulty.
Librarian, Horace H. Moore, | *Assistants*..D. E. Webb, J. J. Tayker.

OFFICERS, 1862.

<i>President</i>.....Jacob Underhill.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ..Wm. M. Noyes.
<i>Vice President</i>.....William Norris.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> ..Sydney V. Smith.
<i>Treasurer</i>		Camillo Martin.

Directors—Maj. H. Leonard, John B. Newton, John C. Merrill, P. L. Weaver, C. W. Hathaway, Wm. Alvord, Chas. D. Haven, Thos. Bennett, John Wightman.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Horace H. Moore.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>.....Daniel E. Webb.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....C. H. Canfield.

OFFICERS, 1863.

<i>President</i>.....Albert Miller.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ..Wm. N. Arthur.
<i>Vice President</i> ..Henry B. Williams.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> .Frank D. Carlton.
<i>Treasurer</i>		Frederick W. Macondray.

Directors—Edw'd F. Hall, Jr., Geo. C. Boardman, F. E. Webster, A. P. Flint, Thomas Breeze, A. L. Edwards, Joseph Hobart, W. Melvin Smith, William M. Pierson,

<i>Librarian</i>.....Horace M. Moore.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>.....Daniel E. Webb.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....C. H. Canfield.

OFFICERS, 1864.

<i>President</i>.....Horace Davis.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....W. Harney.
<i>Vice President</i>.....G. W. Bell.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> ..Luman S. Pease.
<i>Treasurer</i>		J. M. Shotwell.

Trustees—Wm. M. Noyes, G. T. Hawley, J. McMechan, J. Warren Cox, John F. Pope, J. H. Wildes, Wm. Wadhams, W. H. Eldridge, John Y. Lind.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Horace H. Moore.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>.....Daniel E. Webb.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....John A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1865.

<i>President</i>.....G. W. Bell.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....David Wilder.
<i>Vice President</i>....C. Wolcott Brooks.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> .Henry S. Homans.
<i>Treasurer</i>		J. G. Clark.

Trustees—J. H. Wildes, James W. Cox, Adam T. Green, George Hewston, Frederick L. Castle, Arthur M. Ebbets, F. D. Kellogg, Charles R. Bond, Daniel Rogers.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Daniel E. Webb.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>.....Daniel A. Crosby.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....John A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1866.

<i>President</i>... ..William H. L. Barnes.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....David Wilder.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Robert B. Swain.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> ..Thos. R. Hayes.
<i>Treasurer</i>		William C. Ralston.

Trustees—Wm. G. Badger, J. M. McNulty, George A. Low, Eugene E. Dewey, A. R. Baldwin, George C. Shreve, Arthur M. Ebbets, William E. Wood, F. B. Reynolds.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>.....R. S. Clark.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....J. A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1867.

<i>President</i>....William H. L. Barnes.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....David Wilder.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Robert B. Swain.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> ..Thos. R. Hayes.
<i>Treasurer</i>		William C. Ralston.

Trustees—Wm. G. Badger, J. M. McNulty, Geo. A. Low, Eugene E. Dewey, H. H. Bigelow, George C. Shreve, Arthur M. Ebbets, William E. Wood, F. B. Reynolds.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistant</i>... ..Clinton B. Kelley.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....J. A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1868.

<i>President</i>.....Robert B. Swain.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ..Thos. R. Hayes.
<i>Vice President</i> .William H. L. Barnes.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ...David Wilder.
<i>Treasurer</i>		Wm. C. Ralston.

Trustees—Wm. G. Badger, J. M. McNulty, Wm. E. Wood, Arthur M. Ebbets, Frank B. Reynolds, Wm. Ashburner, Sam'l Hubbard, Henry Neustadter, Morris Mayblum.

<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assistants</i> , {Clinton B. Kelley.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....J. A. Haugh.
{Fred. Seymour.	|	

OFFICERS, 1869.

<i>President</i>.....Robert B. Swain.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> , Thos. R. Hayes.
<i>Vice President</i>.....W. H. L. Barnes.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ...David Wilder.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....William C. Ralston.		
<i>Trustees</i> —Wm. G. Badger, J. M. McNulty, Arthur M. Ebbets, Wm. E. Wood, Frank B. Reynolds, Wm. Ashburner, Samuel Hubbard, Isaac Wormser, A. P. Elfelt		
<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i> .....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assist'ts</i> . A. E. Whitaker, E. O. Wiener.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....J. A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1870.

<i>President</i>.....Robt. B. Swain.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> . Thos. R. Hayes.
<i>Vice President</i>.....W. H. L. Barnes.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ...David Wilder.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....William C. Ralston.		
<i>Trustees</i> —Wm. G. Badger, J. M. McNulty, Arthur M. Ebbets, Wm. E. Wood, Frank B. Reynolds, Wm. Ashburner, Samuel Hubbard, Isaac Wormser, A. P. Elfelt.		
<i>Librarian</i> Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i> .....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Assist'ts</i> . A. E. Whitaker, E. O. Wiener.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....J. A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1871.

<i>President</i>.....Ogden Hoffman.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....Wm. Harney.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Monroe Ashbury.	|	<i>Correspond'g Sec'y</i> . Geo. A. Raymond.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....M. M. Tompkins.		
<i>Trustees</i> —Tiburcio Parrott, Geo. C. Bode, Wm. Alvord, Thos. Bennett, Wm. Loewy, Ralph C. Harrison, N. C. Fassett, Henry Kimball, R. H. Lloyd.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....John J. Tayker.
<i>Assist's</i> . A. E. Whitaker, E. O. Wiener.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....John A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1872.

<i>President</i> ... James Otis.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i>....Wm. Harney,
<i>Vice President</i>.....Geo. C. Bode.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ..Justin P. Moore.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....M. M. Tompkins.		
<i>Trustees</i> —J. C. Wilmerding, Henry P. Bowie, N. C. Fassett, E. F. Hall, Jr., Wm. Loewy, James Palache, A. McF. Davis, Theodore F. Dwight, Joseph Plaw.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Ass'ts</i> ..A. E. Whitaker, E. O. Wiener.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....John A. Haugh.

OFFICERS, 1873.

<i>President</i> ... James Otis.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ...T. H. Rearden.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Wm. B. Johnston.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> . Edw'd Wheaton.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....W. W. Wiggins.		
<i>Trustees</i> —J. H. Redington, A. McF. Davis, Henry P. Bowie, Wm. Loewy, Wm. Norris, John Taylor, Geo. C. Hickox, H. P. Blanchard, H. K. Moore.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....Alfred Stebbins.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. J. Tayker.
<i>Ass'ts</i> } A. E. Whitaker, Darwin Carr,	|	<i>Janitor</i> .....Geo. W. Eastman.
} H. K. Goddard.	|	

OFFICERS, 1874.

<i>President</i>.....Andrew McF. Davis.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ...T. H. Rearden.
<i>Vice President</i>....Edw'd F. Hall, Jr.	|	<i>Correspon'g Secretary</i> .Geo. C. Hickox.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....W. W. Wiggins.		
<i>Trustees</i> —Wm. Loewy, H. P. Blanchard, Hy. P. Tricou, H. K. Moore, Prentiss Selby, H. P. Bowie, Sidney M. Smith, Fred. W. Eaton, Adam T. Green.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....A. E. Whitaker	|	<i>Collector</i>.....J. Taykei.
<i>Asst's</i> ...Darwin Carr, H. K. Goddard.	|	<i>Janitor</i>.....Geo. W. Eastman.

OFFICERS, 1875.

<i>President</i>.....Geo. C. Hickox	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> ..T. H. Rearden.
<i>Vice President</i>.....Wm. Loewy.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ...H. P. Tricou.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....W. W. Wiggins.		
<i>Trustees</i> —H. K. Moore, Prentiss Selby, Sidney M. Smith, H. P. Bowie, W. P. Cummings, Lovell White, Peter Taylor, J. R. Jarboe, John Birmingham.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....A. E. Whitaker.	|	<i>Collector</i>.....John Williams.
<i>Assistants</i> {	.....Darwin Carr.	<i>Janitor</i>.....Geo. W. Eastman.
	.....H. K. Goddard.	
	.....L. B. Wetherbee.	

OFFICERS, 1876.

<i>President</i>.....Lovell White.	|	<i>Recording Secretary</i> .Henry Molineux.
<i>Vice President</i>.....T. H. Rearden.	|	<i>Corresponding Sec'y</i> ...J. Clem Uhler.
<i>Treasurer</i>.....Geo. C. Hickox,		
<i>Trustees</i> —John W. Taylor, M. J. McDonald, J. O. Rountree, Fred'k L. Castle, A. J. Moulder, A. H. Loughborough, W. F. Whittier, Sam'l Heitshu, Chas. R. Allen.		
<i>Librarian</i>.....A. E. Whitaker.	|	<i>Pages.</i> {Thomas Cleary,
<i>Asst's</i> {	Darwin Carr, H. K. Goddard,	.....Gustavus Schwarzmnn.
	L. B. Wetherbee.	
	<i>Collector</i>.....John Williams.	
	<i>Janitor</i>.....Geo. W. Eastman.	

LIBRARY STATISTICS.

RECEIPTS AND EXPENDITURES.

Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.	Year.	Receipts.	Expenditures.
1853.....	\$10,858 50.....	\$10,726 51	1865.....	\$20,259 00.....	\$16,469 71
1854.....	13,387 30.....	11,838 02	1866.....	84,132 76.....	74,980 05
1855.....	9 015 85.....	8,747 96	1867.....	121,256 15.....	139,322 01
1856.....	10,300 00.....	8,989 27	1868.....	145,312 31.....	145,312 31
1857.....	11,777 87.....	12,474 73	1869.....	82,148 53.....	82,148 35
1858.....	12,089 15.....	11,704 09	1870.....	512,224 18.....	492,935 75
1859.....	16,854 82.....	19,045 16	1871.....	26,674 20.....	41,186 38
1860.....	15,604 50.....	16,482 20	1872.....	26,483 83.....	25,471 29
1861.....	15,852 98.....	15,112 22	1873.....	28,689 40.....	31,038 66
1862.....	15,333 26.....	13,506 79	1874.....	32,897 25.....	33,258 36
1863.....	14,601 75.....	14,460 40	1875.....	26,836 25.....	27,512 83
1864.....	17,641 12.....	16,106 39	1876.....	26,077 15.....	27,542 19

GROWTH OF THE LIBRARY.

NUMBER OF VOLUMES AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF EACH YEAR.

Year.	No. of Volumes.	Year.	No. of Volumes.
1853.....	1,500	1866.....	19,711
1854.....	2,705	1867.....	21,557
1855.....	3,315	1868.....	24,020
1856.....	3,833	1869.....	25,745
1857.....	6,135	1870.....	28,110
1858.....	8,447	1871.....	30,002
1859.....	10,066	1872.....	30,006
1860.....	11,485	1873.....	33,614
1861.....	13,821	1874.....	36,356
1862.....	14,985	1875.....	39,148
1863.....	15,506	1876.....	41,563
1864.....	16,620	1877.....	44,750
1865.....	18,095		

INCREASE OF MEMBERS.

NUMBER OF MEMBERS AT THE COMMENCEMENT OF EACH YEAR.

Year.	No. of Members.	Year.	No. of Members.
1854.....	392	1866.....	2,198
1855.....	552	1867.....	1,708
1856.....	550	1868.....	1,818
1857.....	1,250	1869.....	1,870
1858.....	1,176	1870.....	1,984
1859.....	1,319	1871.....	2,020
1860.....	1,817	1872.....	2,062
1861.....	1,694	1873.....	2,048
1862.....	1,725	1874.....	2,038
1863.....	1,786	1875.....	2,041
1864.....	1,435	1876.....	2,135
1865.....	1,650	1877.....	1,958

OPERATIONS OF THE LIBRARY.

NUMBER OF VOLUMES TAKEN OUT.

Year.	No. of Volumes.	Year.	No. of Volumes.
1854.....	3,371	1866.....	54,389
1855.....	8,367	1867.....	54,492
1856.....	10,466	1868.....	62,237
1857.....	17,528	1869.....	79,189
1858.....	17,321	1870.....	82,564
1859.....	21,903	1871.....	84,710
1860.....	25,757	1872.....	88,916
1861.....	31,955	1873.....	88,751
1862.....	31,464	1874.....	84,763
1863.....	35,702	1875.....	80,084
1864.....	40,136	1876.....	87,579
1865.....	41,737		